

## The Norfolk News

The Blair Courier has come out for the republican cause and will be found battling for the right hereafter.

Governor-Elect Dietrich has already announced some of his appointments and it seems that the fusionists are finding no grounds for criticism.

The Chinese situation continues to be the absorbing international topic. It seems evident that China is about to be brought under civilizing influences whether she will or not.

In 1896 California and Oregon were the only states west of the Missouri that gave their electoral votes to McKinley. They do not feel lonesome, however, in the year of our Lord, 1900.

When fusionists assert that it was bribery and coercion that won the last election they slander members of their own party, because many of them helped in swelling the majorities for the republican ticket.

The vote of Hastings at the last election is a refutation of the vile stories circulated about C. H. Dietrich by the fusionists. He ran ahead of his ticket, whereas the fusionists endeavored to create the impression that the city would go against him by a large majority.

It is reported that Croker is now going to reform Tammany and New York. They probably need it, but it would seem that Boss Croker would be out of his element as head of a reform movement. However, he probably realizes as well as anyone what and where reforms are needed.

The fusion majority for Holcomb in Knox county last year was 638. This year Bryan carried the county by a majority of 22. Knox was redeemed from a burdensome fusion majority though it didn't drop over the line. It is in a first rate condition to enter the republican fold next election. A slump from the fusion ticket of 616 votes in a total vote of 3,200 is not so bad.

Senator John M. Thurston has again announced his retirement from the political field and states that his time will be given to the practice of law. He may move to New York. The senator will probably stay retired until the World-Herald sees fit to reassert that he is a factor in Nebraska politics owing to the fact that he is attorney for the Standard Oil trust.

British manufacturing and commercial interests recognize that a formidable rival for the trade of the world is developing in Brother Jonathan's territory and the competition about to develop will undoubtedly be a battle royal for trade supremacy. The Yankee has never yet failed in an undertaking and it will be one of the surprises if he is not at the top of the heap within a few years.

Burt county, where one of the republican papers "flopped" on the eve of election, went almost unanimously for the republican ticket. Wayne county, where two leading fusionists came out for the republican ticket, showed increased republican gains. The moral is that if you must "flop" use good common sense and "flop" in the right direction if you want to make a winner.

An effort is being made by his friends to secure for Mr. Louis V. Haskell of Wakefield the appointment to the position of clerk of the state banking board. Mr. Haskell is a practical banker and would be thoroughly at home in the position to which he aspires. Besides this, he has long been identified with the republican party of the state. Under all the circumstances it would seem that no better selection could be made than Mr. Haskell.

Those who have had experience with irrigation believe that Nebraska lands would double their present productive capacity under that system and that, therefore, the cultivation of 50 acres would bring the results now obtained by the cultivation of 100 acres. This would undoubtedly lead to smaller farms and a corresponding increase in population. This part of the state is very productive now but if its capacity can be increased it would mean a great deal toward its further development.

During the last campaign the democrats claimed to be the only true followers of Lincoln and through them alone would patriotism and liberty be preserved. There was enough religious sentiment injected into their campaign to prevent surprise should that party four years hence conclude to represent themselves as the only true followers of Christ and through them alone would Christianity be preserved. It will have the appearance of Satan declaring for Christ but will be scarcely less incongruous than for the aiders and abettors of the Philippine rebellion to declare themselves the only true patriots.

This is the first year in six that the republican press in Nebraska has had good grounds for rejoicing. If they holler too loud they must be excused. They stood behind the guns and from the time the campaign opened till it closed they never quit. With vigor

they tore to pieces the vagaries of Bryanism and defended the principals of the republican party that, put into force four years ago, has made the country prosperous beyond expectations. The power of the press was never before so fully recognized as it is today and in the humble opinion of the writer there is nothing too good for the newspaper boys.—Blair Pilot.

The medical and dental of the Omaha dental college, on Thursday evidently forgot that their life's mission was to heal wounds and cure aching molars, and went in the opposite direction, their efforts for the nonce being to create pains and bruises. It was a "scrap" between the two classes for a choice of seats in the lecture room. The medicals came out winners, one of the dentists being seriously hurt. The scrimmage indicates that the old spirit of the district school when the pedagogue was thrown out of doors or bound hand and foot while the pupils enjoyed themselves is not entirely dead but lies dormant in the breast of the modern youth.

The democrats express fear that their pre-election forecast of a large standing army for this country will be realized and that the regular forces may be permanently raised to 100,000 men. What a horrible menace! An army of 100,000 in a country of 75,000,000 population or one soldier to every 750 people! Surely the day of militarism and tyranny has arrived! Meanwhile wouldn't it be the proper thing for enemies of the country or those who may become enemies to do the principal part of the worrying regarding the future of American military forces? If an increased army is a menace to anyone it is to the nation that would seek to fight this country.

The farmers of California are organizing clubs. The objects of the clubs are mutual improvement, study of topics pertaining to the farm and the farmer's life, exchange of experiences and ideas, discussion of plans and methods of making farm life and farm work more pleasant and profitable, and occasionally having a lecture by some qualified person on practical scientific subjects of interest to farmers. The plan is a good one. If farmers would organize a club on this plan with a club room at the town where they do their trading—a place to warm, eat their lunch and pass an idle hour it would seem that the idea might be turned into one of profit and convenience. The annual institutes held in this state are a step in the right direction, but the sessions are so far apart that between times the farmer loses interest. With weekly or monthly meetings they would maintain an interest and be prepared to get the greatest good for the largest number when the institute sessions are held.

Louisiana would seem to be one of the last places on earth to look for an evidence of gratification over the result of the recent election. But that some of the people in that state are happy is shown by the following from the Sugar Planters' Journal, published in New Orleans: "With the news of the reelection of Mr. McKinley, comes a feeling of security to the sugar and rice planters of this whole country. This almost universal ratification of the republican administration guarantees to the above mentioned classes of planters that they will have at least four years more of protective tariff and continued good prices for their products. Irrespective of politics, the planters of Louisiana really feel that the republican party is chiefly responsible for the present stable footing that both sugar manufacture and rice growing has in our state. In consequence, much gratification is expressed by all connected with the industries, and a period of untroubled composure may be looked forward to for the coming four years."

While the campaign is over people are not likely to soon forget some of the slanderous statements made. Rev. Cheeseman was especially nasty in some of his remarks and he will not soon be forgiven. The following from the Pierce Call expresses the sentiment of a good many people: "The notorious and blasphemous Rev. Cheeseman has resigned his pastorate of the Congregational church at Ashland—by request. Cheeseman is the individual who, like Saul of Tarsus, alleged to have seen a great light, and came out for the fusion cause. His most noted allegation was that the government sent 600 prostitutes to Manila in the guise of Red Cross nurses, so that the lusts of the soldiery might be satisfied. One of the girls that accompanied this band of women to the Philippines was a former Pierce girl whose character and reputation is beyond question and it is well that the Rev. Cheeseman's date was cancelled at Pierce. The Red Cross order is one of the grandest and noblest organizations in existence and anyone who would speak lightly of it is a knave."

Now that election is over, Mark Hanna's statement that "there are no trusts" might be considered. The statement is technically and literally correct. There are no trusts, but there are large corporations a plenty, which is the general acceptance of the term. There is a vast difference, however, between a trust and a corporation. A corporation may be just as monopolistic and injurious to the public welfare as a trust. It also

may be in the highest degree useful and beneficial. How to curb and regulate the one without injury to the other is the great question. It is not a political question, because it is not a question upon which honest men differ. Everybody is opposed to monopolistic combinations of capital which raise prices above a legitimate figure. But here comes another question. The combination of labor into unions is the very same principle. Any law that will kill one will kill the other. There can be no class legislation in this country. So it will be seen that this question is one that cannot be decided off hand by any curbstone or platform orator. It is indeed doubtful if it can be reached by legislation. We believe it will eventually settle itself. There is no business be it large or small that will not sooner or later have competition if the profits of that business are abnormally or unreasonably great. We believe that competition will eventually settle the so-called trust question, and we do not believe there is a particle of danger of these large monied interests ever dominating this republic.—Albion News.

The new beet contract offered the farmers by the American Beet Sugar company is by long odds the best ever presented for their consideration, and that the acreage will be largely increased is not doubted. It has been a subject for earnest consideration with the company as to what is the utmost price they could afford to offer for beets. That they decided to make a radical increase is subject for congratulation by all the people residing in the territory tributary to the factories. That the wages paid out by the company and the money paid out for other expenses is a big item to Norfolk business interests and the interests of other towns where factories are located is an indisputable fact, and that their decision was received with joy on the part of all was excusable. In view of the fact that the company has made these concessions, it would be quite the proper thing for the business men to call the attention of their customers to the contract and enlist their interest. Many producers have expressed their desire for just such a contract and some have indicated their satisfaction with the new concessions and will contract to raise all the beets they can handle. It is certain that the industry will be given a new impetus, but it is also certain that if it should not result in inducing the raising of sufficient beets for the use of the factory that institution will be closed down. The News hopes to see an acreage raised next year that will meet all the requirements of the factory. With a minimum price of \$4 per ton and a possibility of securing \$5 or \$6 it would seem that the beet crop will be one of the most profitable it is possible to raise. It is certainly worthy of a trial.

**Bryan Explains.**  
The self-assurance of Mr. Bryan blinds him as to the real and immediate cause of the disastrous outcome of the "second battle." That he wholly and completely fails to comprehend the temper of the American people and the reasons prompting their political action, is evident from the statement he gave to the press a few days after his defeat was known, in which he said:  
"The republicans were able to secure tickets or passes for all their voters who were away from home, and this gave them a considerable advantage. We have no way of knowing at this time how much money was spent in the purchase of votes and in colonization."

Mr. Bryan here intimates that the main factor contributing to his defeat was corruption and bribery. No thinking man will for an instant believe that so great a number of the American people, as repudiated Mr. Bryan and the policies he advocates, are as viciously dishonest as Mr. Bryan's charge would imply. Mr. Bryan himself, in the same letter, makes an admission which destroys his theory, when he says:  
"We seemed to have gained in the large cities and to have lost in the smaller cities and in the country."

It is impossible to bribe, colonize or intimidate an isolated people like those who live in the country or in the smaller towns. It is a fact, acknowledged by all students of civics, that the most capable, independent and conscientious class of voters are the farmers and the voting population of our villages, the very people among whom Mr. Bryan says he sustained the most severe losses. The implication from Mr. Bryan's interview is that these, instead of being the most conscientious, are the most dishonest of our people. It is only in the large cities, the great centres of population, the places where Mr. Bryan says he made his gains, that corruption is possible and "bossism," the source of it, flourishes. Are we to conclude that Mr. Bryan reasons from introspection? Can it be that he assigns to a large majority of his fellow citizens base and unworthy motives upon the theory that such motives prompt his own political action? Does he allege that the gains made among the farmers by the republicans, were due to a corrupt use of money because of a conviction that his gains in the city of New York were brought about by liberal expenditures, on the part of his friend and financial agent, Mr. Croker, of the blood money raised for his campaign from the dives and brothels or other forms of criminal revenue?—Morton's Conservative.

The big steel mills at Mingo Junction, Ohio, resumed operations today, after having been shut down over seven months.

It is now urged that Dick Croker made a very good start toward the reform he has been advocating in New York by, taking passage for Europe.

Lancaster county has 65 announced candidates for positions under the new state administration. This is but a small portion of the army throughout the state.

The Madison county district court docket is lighter this term than at any term during the last 17 years. This does not indicate a great deal of prosperity—for the attorneys.

It is stated on good authority that two new United States senators for Nebraska will be chosen by the coming session of the legislature and not by the fusion newspapers, that seem to think it their duty.

Some of the democrats say that the return of Grover Cleveland and other gold democrats to the ranks of the democratic party would be parallel to George Washington having to welcome Benedict Arnold.

Omaha's auditorium fund has reached the \$70,000 mark and it begins to look as though the metropolis of Nebraska would have a building for public meetings in keeping with the importance (since election) of the state.

At the close of an interesting presidential campaign it is mighty hard to drop politics like you would a hot potato and turn your attention immediately to business or something else—especially if you are on the winning side.

There are sore spots in the breasts of the World-Herald readers who were led to make some foolish bets by its assertions at a time when it must have known better and that paper's subscription list is undoubtedly suffering to some extent.

In the light of the election returns one of the greatest jokes of the campaign sprung by the fusionists was that they would carry Ohio. That state only increased its plurality for President McKinley about twice over that of 1896.

Mark Hanna's advice to "let well enough alone" evidently fell on fertile soil in Nebraska and produced votes. They let well enough alone with a vengeance that must have been surprising and disheartening to the Bryan cause.

The Nebraskans in Washington are to celebrate the victory by republicans of this state soon with a reception. Speeches are to be made by Senator Thurston, W. E. Andrews, W. H. Michael and perhaps Geo. D. Meiklejohn and Edward Rosewater.

The Tennessee law, which prohibits the sale of cigarettes in that state, has been declared constitutional by the United States supreme court. This will mean the doom of the cigarette in several states that will follow the example of Tennessee and prohibit their sale.

The contractor on the government building at Blair has thrown up the job, stating that he made an error in his figures, and the government will be compelled to re-advertise for bids. Norfolk people would be pretty well satisfied if their building had reached even this stage.

Hearst's papers were among the first to forswear Bryanite theories after election. The editor evidently believes that he has seen the end of that sort of politics or at least of its control of the democratic party and his action expresses a desire to climb into the new band wagon however it may be controlled.

The fusionists, from their newspaper talk, seem to think that they still have a hand in directing the American policy in the Philippines. They will find out before another election that the important questions developing in the island territory have been settled by the republican administration with satisfaction to all concerned.

Mr. Bryan says, "It's a nuisance to be continually discussing matters that never come to pass." Mr. Bryan is learning and may in time be one of the wise men of the nation. He discussed "free silver" for something like four years and gave his attention to "imperialism" for one campaign and has just learned—since the returns are all in—that it is a nuisance to discuss such questions. A great many people thought so long ago.

The prohibitionists of the Third district were responsible for keeping a good, straight temperance man out of congress. They polled 159 votes in six counties of the district, which, added to the vote of John R. Hays, with their vote in other counties, would have elected that gentleman. The temperance of the successful candidate is not questioned, but he represents a party that comes a long way from being noted for temperance qualities.

The Bryan democrats appear to feel that the gold men of their party have no right to the name democrat that they are bound to respect and the gold men seem to feel that the silver men, having led the party twice to defeat, should

step down and out. To a person interested in neither side it would seem that the factions are bent on making a temporary split permanent, and a new party organization embracing the policies of one side or the other seems imperative.

The prohibitionists are crowing. The New Republic of Lincoln figures that the total vote of that party in the country is nearly double what it was in 1896. That paper has placed the total vote this year at 251,700. That it is not much to enthuse over may be realized when it is considered that this entire vote lacks considerable of being half as much as McKinley's plurality over Bryan. It will require several campaigns at doubling up before that party may hope to elect a candidate.

In irrigation and the scientific application of forestry ideas is contained that which means much to the future of Nebraska. With Nebraska's prairies covered with timber, and artificial lakes for irrigation purposes created, all its rich soil will be available for cultivation and the probable outcome, which at the present may seem like an idle dream, will be a reality. While the federal government will probably do a great deal in this direction, the state should also do something and the results may not be as far in the future as some might imagine.

The Kearney Hub denies that the old ship is about to founder, in the following language: "The old ship is not leaking now. She is caulked good and tight, has a new captain and a new crew, is under sailing orders, and will set out in January for a two years' cruise. The weather is fair, the winds are favorable, and there is every indication of a safe, prosperous voyage. Possibly it is necessary to warn Capt. Dietrich to beware of the barnacles, and see that the hull is scraped perfectly clean, before the voyage is commenced. The only danger that threatens the ship is the barnacle. Beware!"

Land near the sugar factory will undoubtedly be in considerable demand under the new beet contract of the American company and property owners will undoubtedly receive some benefit in an enhanced value. The 25 cents a ton for delivery at the factory is a considerable inducement for growers to raise their beets as near the factory as possible and it will be surprising if the land about Norfolk is not converted into an immense beet field next season. This will furnish employment for a large number of hands in the beet fields and prosperous year for the city will result.

The completed returns show that Bryan was ahead of Poynter in Nebraska 467 votes. Because McKinley had run so far ahead of Bryan and the race between Dietrich and Poynter was so close many believed that Poynter had polled more votes than Bryan, but the opposite proved true. It looks as though thousands of voters in the state had simply voted the head ticket and considered their full duty done. The circle opposite the electors names may have been responsible for this, many voters believing that a cross in this voted a "straight" ticket from top to bottom.

The World-Herald is not yet willing to concede that this country is one of the most civilized of the world and indicates a hesitancy about entrusting to the United States the task of teaching other countries how to break away from heathendom. It says: "The Limon horror will doubtless cause the Chinese to hesitate still longer about accepting western civilization." While the World-Herald considers this an evidence of heathenish practices in the United States, it should not neglect to call attention also to the fact that Colorado went almost unanimously for Bryanism in 1896 and gave that ticket a good majority this year. It will therefore not be called upon, to any large extent, to teach civilization. No more will North and South Carolina or Louisiana or other states where such high handed practices have been popular. The states that have indicated a desire to teach civilization are quite uniformly civilized.

People believing in anarchism have been believed, by many, to be the worst class taking part in political and economic problems. They have been condemned oftentimes when their beliefs have not been understood. Martha E. Elkins, discussing Tolstoi from an anarchist's standpoint in a recent number of Free Society, published at San Francisco, gives some light on what they believe in the following words: "The complex and inconsistent political economy of the conservative past, with its falsehoods and elaborate system, trying to prove black white and selfishness the first law of society, is fast breaking away among those who investigate. Our theories of economics teaches that a man is inherently a spiritual being, with noble impulses and unselfish propensities; that equity of opportunity is essential in the name of justice, and private ownership of land or other property fatal to such equity; that freedom from restraint other than the restraints of conscience and labor is necessary to perfect our individuality; that to have freedom, law becomes a hindrance to our highest expression of life, and that co-operation, being the most economical way of regulating the interests of society, does not necessarily mean giving

up our individuality or the making of man a mere machine, forgetting that men are infinite in variety and must be modeled to suit a system of economics." It would appear from this that their belief is not so widely at variance with the propositions of some politicians who would be deeply insulted were they termed anarchists. The difference is that the belief of the anarchist is a little more radical and he is more conscientiously outspoken than those who hide under the name of other political organizations and advocate the same theories, or that which tends toward the same theories, as the anarchist.

**Porto Rican Prosperity.**  
Over in Porto Rico there are also men who cannot see prosperity—because they don't want to. They are of the same material as the calamityites of the mainland who believed that the majority of the people were as blind as they chose to make themselves appear. That the island is prospering is attested by the San Juan News of recent date, which says:

"When the Porto Rico tariff law went into operation there was a great outcry. It was predicted by many that the trade of the island would be entirely destroyed; that the prosperity of the island would gradually diminish. Fortunately these predictions have not come true. If we would only look at things in their true light, the island was never further advanced on the road to prosperity than it is today. The truth is that the merchants and others who are crying 'hard times' do not want to see anything else. If prosperity stared them in the face they would shut their eyes and say it was not there. They do not want to see the island progress. They want to continue the same old business methods and monopolies. Competition they call depression."

"There never was a time before in the island's history, when a man with pluck and ability had such a free and open field before him. The humblest may aspire to wealth and fame."

"The returns from the customs house show that both our import and export trade is increasing. The steamship companies will endorse these returns and will tell you that they are making preparations to handle an increased quantity of freight during the next few months. The sugar crop this year will be a very heavy one. One promising feature of the situation is the fact that a market is being created in the United States for our minor products. Our fruits are being shipped north and bring good prices. Many small articles to which no attention was formerly paid are now being marketed with profit. All over the island, Porto Ricans are beginning to find out that in the soil at their feet lies wealth hitherto undreamed of. The men who do not prosper are the men who do not work."

**FOR BETTER HIGHWAYS.**  
National Good Roads Association is Formed at Chicago.

Chicago, Nov. 22.—During the closing hours of the national good roads convention a permanent organization was effected. The National Good Roads Association is the name of the new organization. Headquarters will be in Chicago. Officers were elected for the first year and it is the intention of the association to continue the agitation and work for the improvement of the public highways along the lines suggested by the convention.

The articles of the association state that the new organization is to represent the various national, state, agricultural, industrial, commercial, transportation, wheelmen's and automobile associations which are furthering the cause of good roads.

Aside from the formation of a permanent organization, the other important work of the day was the report of the committee on legislation. The report will be presented to Secretary of Agriculture Wilson and copies also will be sent to the members of congress. The convention took a stand in favor of the employment of convict labor in the improvement of highways.

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